

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

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APPROVED BY AF:WESCHAUFEE
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 096944

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, CD, US

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR TOURA GABA PAYS INITIAL CALL ON
ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFEE

1. AMBASSADOR TOURA GABA PAID HIS INITIAL CALL ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFEE APRIL 27. ALTHOUGH AMBASSADOR HAS NOT PRESENTED CREDENTIALS, HE FELT THAT HE SHOULD BEGIN TO MAKE SUBSTANTIVE CONTACT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE. DURING THE MEETING, WHICH WAS ALSO ATTENDED BY AMBASSADOR BRADFORD, TOURA GABA RAISED SEVERAL POINTS REGARDING US ASSISTANCE TO CHAD AND US-CHADIAN RELATIONS IN GENERAL.

2. TOURA GABA STATED MOST IMPORTANT QUESTION HE WISHED TO DISCUSS WAS POSSIBILITY OF AIRLIFT FOR FOOD ASSISTANCE NOW ARRIVING IN CHAD. RATIONALE FOR REQUEST WAS THAT TRUCKING CAPACITY SIMPLY NOT SUFFICIENT TO MOVE GRAIN TO ALL AREAS OF NEED, THEREFORE ONE OR TWO CARGO PLANES WOULD BE NEEDED. TOURA GABA NOTED THAT REQUEST HAD ALREADY BEEN MADE SEVERAL TIMES, BUT HAD NOT ELICITED A FAVORABLE RESPONSE FROM USG.
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SCHAUFEE RESPONDED THAT AMB. BRADFORD WOULD FOLLOW UP ON THE REQUEST DURING HIS CONSULTATIONS.

3. TOURA GABA SAID THAT CHAD, LIKE MANY OTHER COUNTRIES, IS OFTEN ASKED WHAT ITS NEEDS ARE. HOWEVER, LIKE MANY OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, ITS NEEDS ARE ABUNDANTLY CLEAR. FOR

INSTANCE, THE CHADIAN NATIONAL BUDGET IS RARELY BALANCED. COULD THE UNITED STATES OFFER SOME ASSISTANCE THERE? SECONDLY, CHAD HAD SIX NEIGHBORS, ONE OF WHOM, LIBYA, WAS EXTREMELY DANGEROUS. COULD NOT THE US OFFER SOME ASSISTANCE IN THE AREA OF SECURITY? HE STATED THAT SUCH ASSISTANCE DID NOT NECESSARILY NEED TO CONSIST OF LETHAL WEAPONS, BUT COULD BE CHANNELED DIRECTLY TO THE POLICE FORCE INSTEAD OF THE ARMED FORCES. AMB. SCHAUFLE REPLIED THAT THE ADMINISTRATION IS IN THE PROCESS OF AN OVERALL REVIEW OF ITS MILITARY ASSISTANCE POLICY AND ANY NEW INITIATIVES MUST AWAIT THE RESULTS OF THE REVIEW. IN ANY CASE, MILITARY ASSISTANCE IS A VERY THORNY ISSUE, AND WE COULD NOT OFFER CHAD ANY HOPE AT THIS TIME.

4. TOURA GABA ALSO ADDRESSED THE LACK OF US PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN CHAD. HE NOTED THAT ONE FIRM, CONOCO, WAS ACTIVE IN CHAD, BUT THAT TWO OTHERS, AGRICOLA AND GTE HAD FAILED TO CARRY THROUGH ON THEIR COMMITMENTS TO THE GOC. IN BOTH CASES, SAID TOURA GABA, GOC WAS NOT AT FAULT, AS THE AMERICANS, FOR VARIOUS REASONS, DID NOT FULFILL THEIR SHARE OF THE PROPOSALS PUT FORTH TO THE GOC. ON AGRICOLA, AMBASSADOR SAID ENTIRE MISUNDERSTANDING COULD BE RESOLVED BY NEXT JULY IF COMPANY AGREED TO VISIT CHAD. TOURA GABA SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE ADDITIONAL PRIVATE AMERICAN INVESTMENT IN CHAD.

5. THROUGHOUT MEETING, AMBASSADOR TOURA GABA WAS CORDIAL, FRANK AND WELL-INFORMED. AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE OFFERED HIM THE FULL COOPERATION OF THE AF BUREAU AND LOOKED FOR-
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WARD TO MAINTAINING THE EXCELLENT WORKING RELATIONSHIP THAT EXISTED WITH AMB. ALINGUE.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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